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P r e l i m i n a r y R e p o r t

**U-2 RECONNAISSANCE MISSIONS C535C, C555C, and C545C
flown 16, 19, and 20 October 1965**

4 November 1965

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C E N T R A L I N T E L L I G E N C E A G E N C Y

D i r e c t o r a t e o f S c i e n c e a n d T e c h n o l o g y

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MISSION HIGHLIGHTS

This report presents the highlights of three GRC missions, C535C, C555C, and C545C. There were no air-to-air missile (AAM) or surface-to-air missile (SAM) threats to any of these missions.

Mission C535C, flown on 16 October 1965, [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] provided photographic coverage of 29 COMOR targets. There were 8 fighter reactions, none of which were a threat to the mission.

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Mission C555C, flown on 19 October, was over South China for 2 hours and 5 minutes and collected photographic intelligence on 34 COMOR targets [redacted]

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Mission C545C, flown on 20 October 1965, was over Thailand, Burma, Laos, and southwest China for approximately 2 hours and 46 minutes (figure 2). It provided intelligence on 44 targets, 22 which were on the COMOR list. [redacted]
[redacted]

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Preliminary Report

**U-2 RECONNAISSANCE MISSIONS C535C, C555C, and C545C
flown 16, 19, and 20 October 1965**

**Mission C535C
16 October 1965**

BACKGROUND

Mission C535C successfully overflew the Chinese Communist coastline bordering the Yellow Sea and the East China Sea on 16 October 1965. The mission was flown in response to a United States Intelligence Board approval on 13 October of coverage of 12 coastal ports of mainland China to determine the location of Chinese Communist submarine forces.

Piloted by a Chinese Nationalist Air Force officer, the U-2 took off from Taiwan at 0134Z and was over denied territory for 2 hours and 11 minutes, exiting China near Wenchow at 0624Z. The mission aircraft landed on Taiwan at 0715Z for a total flight of 5 hours and 41 minutes. The weather was reported as good over most of the route.

The U-2 carried Systems III and VI (Sigint collectors) and Systems 9, 12, and 13 (defensive electronic systems) and the 112B camera. The 112B camera is a high resolution camera which sacrifices some side-to-side coverage for the increase in resolution over the standard U-2 B camera. This mission probably provided some of the

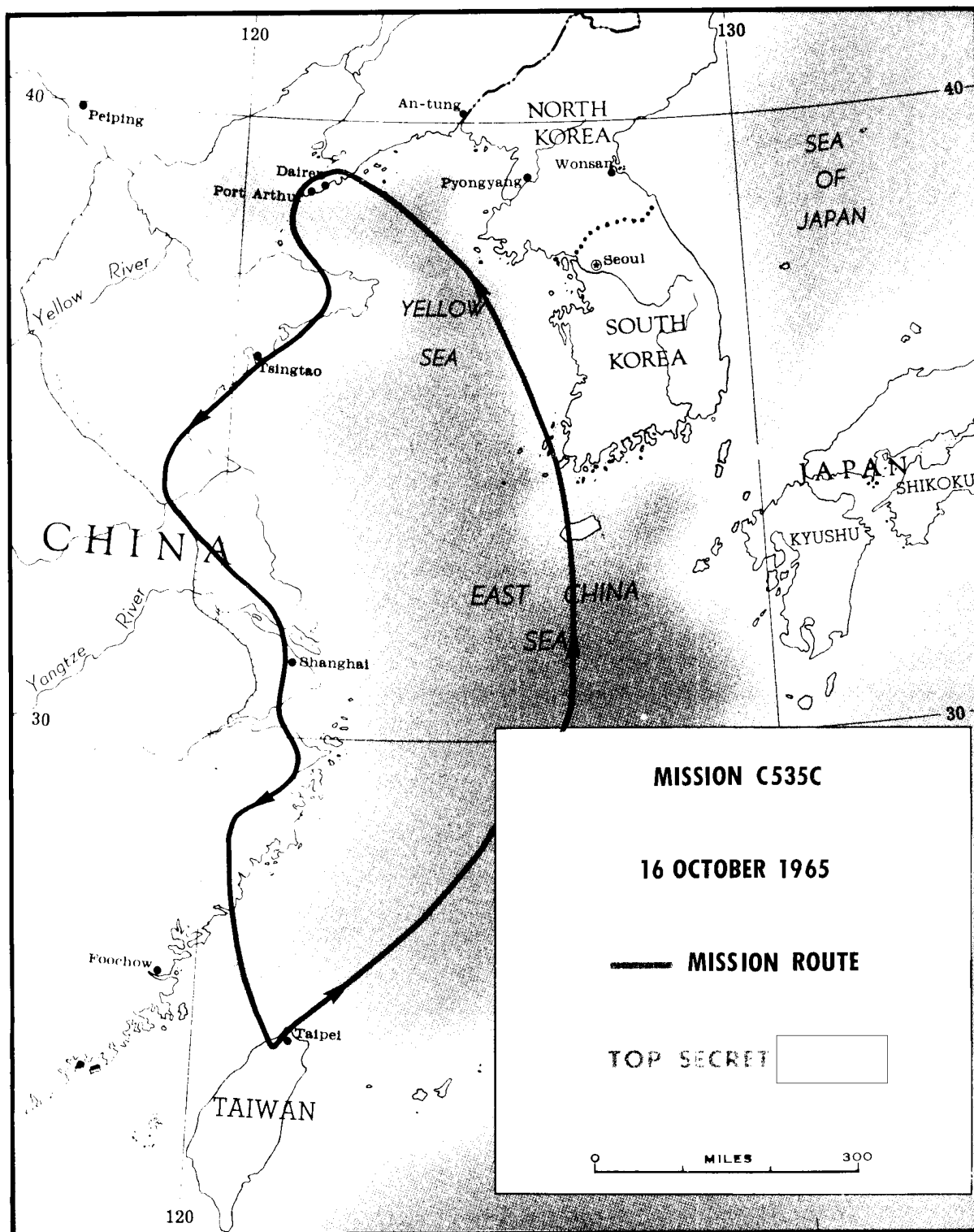
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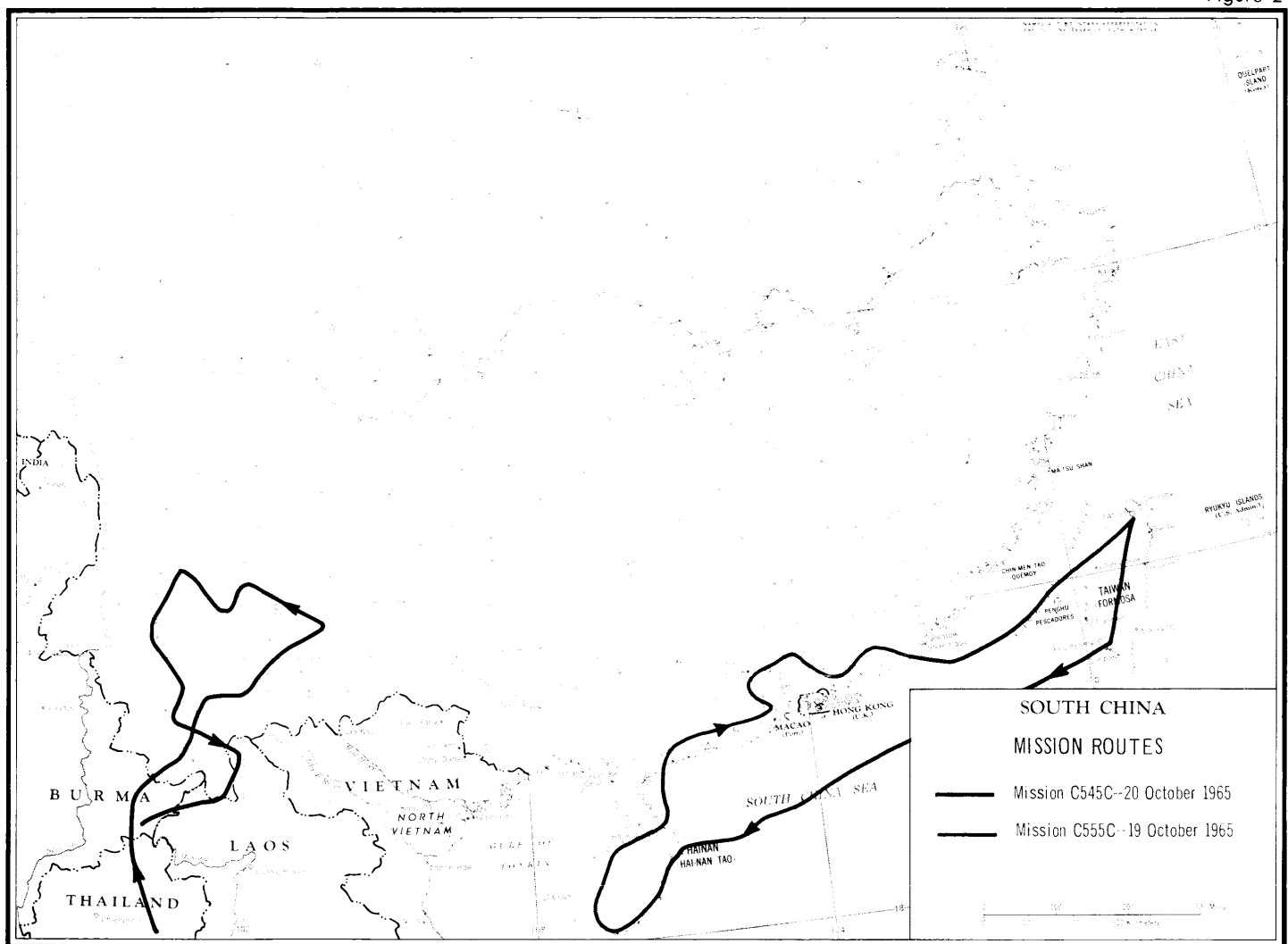
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Figure I
COMMUNIST CHINA/NORTH KOREA



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Figure 2



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finest examples on record of high-altitude high-resolution photography (See figures 3 and 4). An analysis by the National Photographic Interpretation Center indicates the resolution of the images on Mission C535C was approximately nine inches.

ANALYTICAL FINDINGS

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Photography

A preliminary study indicates that the mission covered 97 targets in fair-to-excellent quality photography including 20 airfields, 27 naval installations, 30 military facilities, 2 electronic installations, and 18 industrial installations. These targets included 29 that were on the COMOR list [redacted] A photograph showing three submarine bases (figure 3) and a photograph of Lai-Yang Airfield (figure 4) are included as examples of the photography obtained by the mission.

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Mission C555C 19 October 1965

BACKGROUND

Mission C555C was flown by the GRC over Hainan Island and the southeastern Chinese coastal area on 19 October 1965. The mission was planned in response to the USIB requirement for periodic coverage of South China priority targets.

Launched at 0031Z, the U-2 flew a round-robin mission from Taiwan, returning to base at 0535Z for a total flight of 5 hours and 4 minutes. Two hours and 5 minutes were spent over denied territory.

The weather forecast for the mission called for predominantly Category II (scattered cloud) conditions. The pilot reported the weather as clear to scattered clouds.

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The "B" camera configuration was carried by the aircraft in addition to Systems III and VI Sigint collectors and Systems 9, 12, and 13 defensive electronic countermeasure equipment.

ANALYTICAL FINDINGS

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Photography

Preliminary interpretation of the photography indicates the mission obtained fair-to-good photography of 1 missile installation, 12 airfields, 11 naval facilities, 3 electronic targets, 19 military installations, and 4 urban industrial complexes. In all, 33 COMOR targets were covered [REDACTED] See figure 5 for an example of the quality of the mission photography.

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Mission C545C 20 October 1965

BACKGROUND

C545C is one of a series of GRC missions flown in support of the USIB requirement for monthly coverage of all priority targets in South China as well as weekly coverage of one-fourth of the priority targets.

Launched at 0156Z on 20 October 1965 from its staging base at Ban Takhli, Thailand, the U-2 entered southwest China near Ta-lo, overflew six highest priority targets, and returned to base at 0631Z for a total flight time of 4 hours and 35 minutes. The aircraft was over denied territory for 2 hours and 46 minutes.

The U-2 carried the "B" camera configuration, and System III and VI Sigint collectors. Systems 9, 12, and 13 (defensive electronic systems) were also carried.

The weather, forecast to be primarily Category III (broken clouds), was reported as worse than expected.

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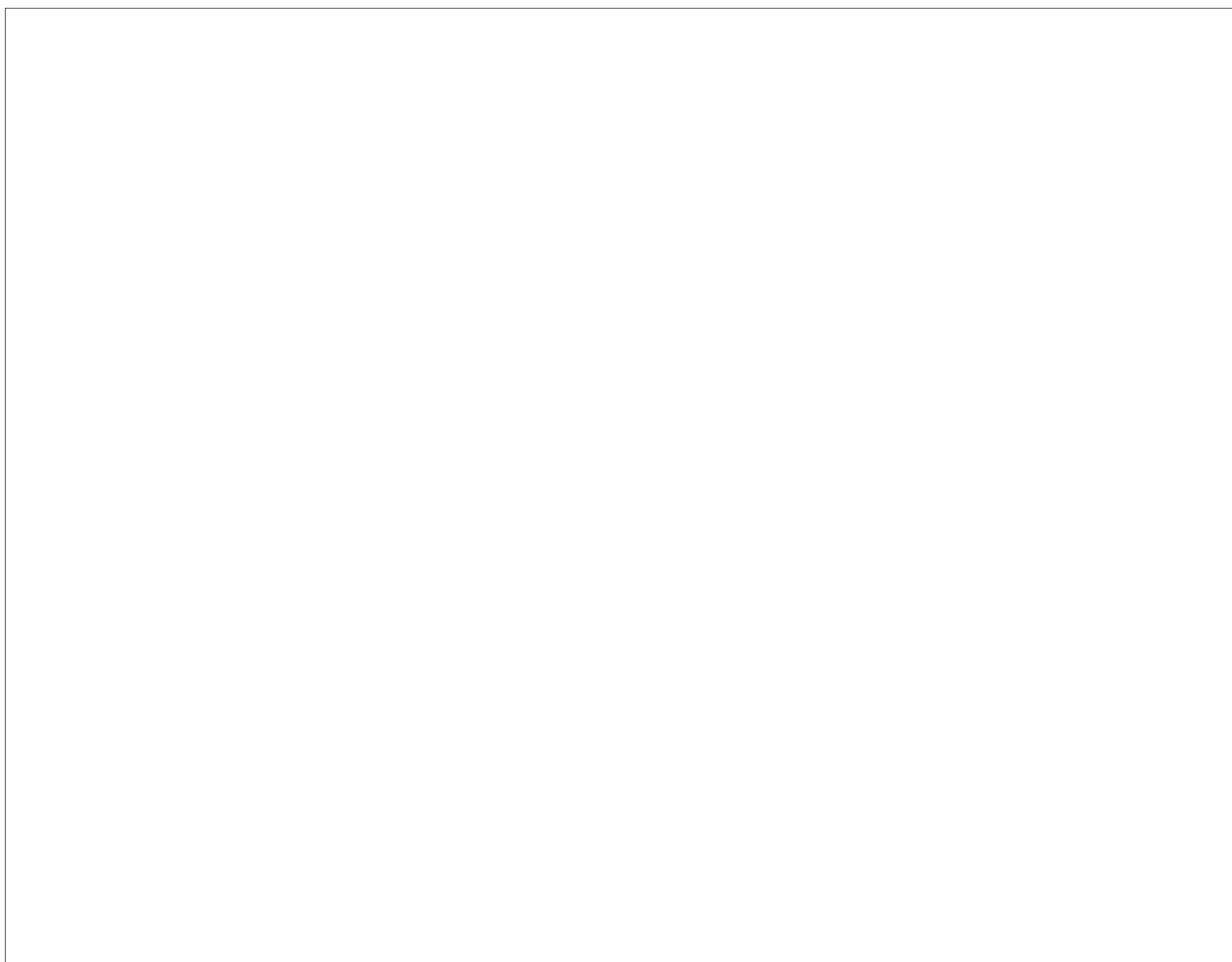
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ANALYTICAL FINDINGS

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Photography

Preliminary interpretation of the photography from the mission indicates that 44 targets were covered in fair-to-good photography. These include 17 airfields and 27 military installations; 23 of these targets were on the COMOR list

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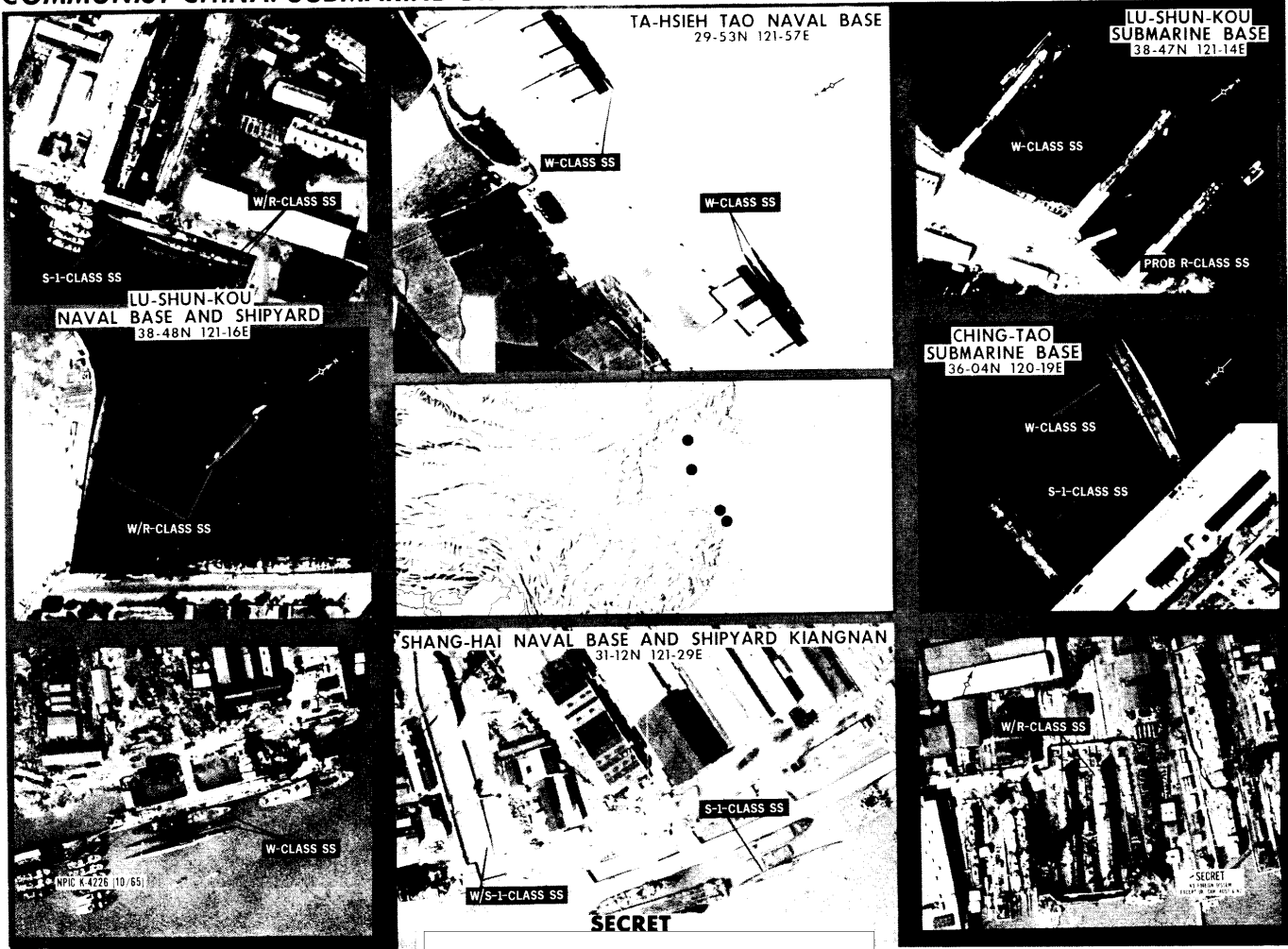
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COMMUNIST CHINA: SUBMARINE ORDER OF BATTLE

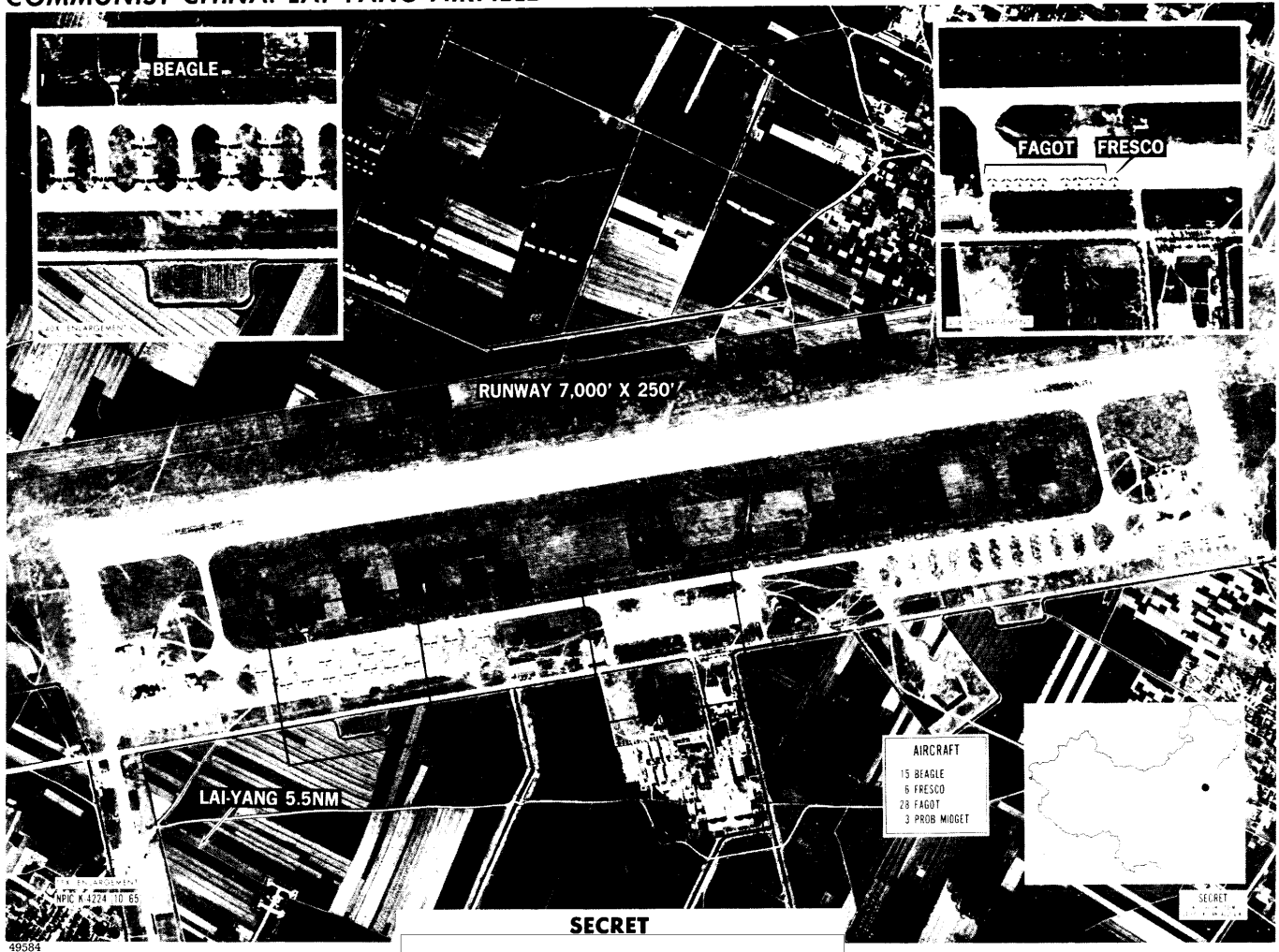
Figure 3



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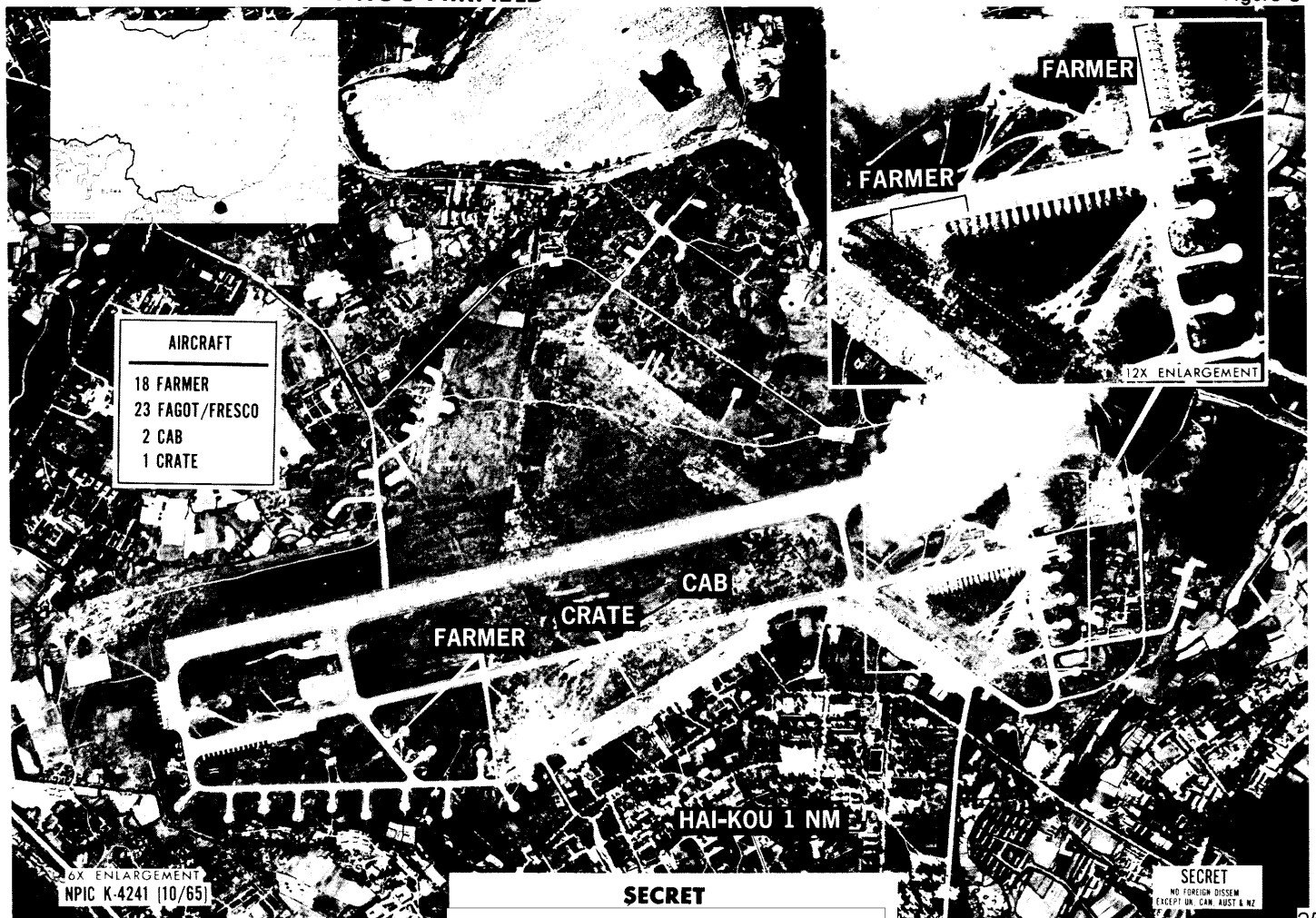
COMMUNIST CHINA: LAI-YANG AIRFIELD

Figure 4



COMMUNIST CHINA: HAI-KOU AIRFIELD

Figure 5



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Table 1

Radars Deployed in China

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Early Warning

SCR-270

MOON CONE

KNIFE REST A

KNIFE REST B

CROSS SLOT

Height Finder

ROCK CAKE

DECCA HF 200

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Ground Control Intercept

TOKEN

BIG MESH

DECCA HF 200

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AAA Fire Control

FIRE CAN

WHIFF

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SOURCES

This preliminary technical evaluation of three U-2 reconnaissance missions flown over Communist China, Laos, and Burma on 16, 19, and 20 October 1965 was developed for the 303 Committee by the following elements of the Directorate of Science and Technology:

Office of Scientific Intelligence
Office of Special Activities
Office of Elint

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PACOM Elint Center, Fuchu, Japan

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